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Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 00802 252154Z
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 AF-08 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 HEW-04
SS-15 SP-02 L-03 NSC-05 NSCE-00 AID-05 /111 W
----------260011Z 042515 /75-61
R 252137Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6363
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 0802

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ILO, ELAB, IS
SUBJECT: ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT ON ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUE

REF: STATE 004508

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS IN REFTEL, EMBASSY MADE LOW KEY APPROACHES TO BOTH LABOR AND FOREIGN MINISTRIES ON VENEZUELAN PERCEPTIONS OF THE CURRENT STATUS AND LIKELY RESOLUTION OF THE SUBJECT ISSUE. THE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OFFICE AT THE LABOR MINISTRY WAS UNAWARE THAT THE ISSUE HAD BEEN POSTPONED. THE ONLY PERSON AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WHO PAYS ANY DETAILED ATTENTION TO THE ILO (A VERY JUNIOR OFFICER) IS ON A MONE-MONTH HOLIDAY. HER SUPERIORS SHOED ONLY THE VAGUEST AWARENESS THAT THE ILO GB WILL BE MEETING IN FEBRUARY, MUCH LESS ANY KNOWLEDGE ON SPECIFIC ISSUES. SO FAR AS WE CAN DETERMINE, NO ARAB APPROACHES TO THE GOV HAVE BEEN MADE IN CARACAS.

2. COMMENT: BETWEEN ANNUAL ILO CONFERENCES, ILO MATTERS ARE ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY THE PROVINCE OF MINISTER COUNSELOR ENRIQUE ASPURUA AYALA AT THE VENEZUELAN MISSION IN GENEVA. THE GOV SENDS NEITHER A DELEGATE NOR DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE GB MEETINGS. THE GOV IS VERY RELUCTANT TO OFFEND
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EITHER ITS OPEC ALLIES, THE ARABS, OR ITS FELLOW SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, THE ISRAELIS. THUS, GOV WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY FAVOR A FURTHER POSTPONEMENT. END COMMENT.

3. CONFEDERATION OF VENEZUELAN WORKERS (CTV) LEADER JOSE GONZALEZ NAVARRO DID INFORM THE LABATT THAT HE WOULD BE GOING TO GENEVA FOR THE FEBRUARY GB MEETING. IN GENERAL

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TERMS, GONZALEZ NAVARRO STATES THAT THE DAY FOR LARGE SCALE NORTH-SOUTH, EAST-WEST CONFRONTATIONS AT THE ILO OVER ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUES HAS PASSED. HE DOUBTS THAT ANYONE WILL ATTEMPT TO MAKE MUCH OF AN ISSUE OF THIS QUESTION EITHER IN FEBRUARY OR IN JUNE (COMMENT: WHILE GONZALEZ NAVARRO HAS LONG EXPERIENCE IN THE ILO, HE MAY BE REFLECTING AN EASING OF THE TENSIONS IN HIS OWN LIFE AS HE SLIPS INTO SEMI-RETIREMENT RATHER THAN THE REALITIES AT THE ILO. END COMMENT.)

4. NO ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO CONTACT EMPLOYER GROUPS ON THIS ISSUE.
VAKY

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: ELAB, IS, XF, VE, ILO
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